

opens the doors of the global economy to the poorest villages in the most remote locations where entrepreneurial creativity and hard work become bankable assets.

As the story of Contreras Lopez indicates, devoting greater resources to effective humanitarian programs like microenterprise yields hope and empowerment to the world's poorest people and demonstrates that the United States is committed to spreading the rewards that can proliferate in a free-enterprise system. I firmly support expanding the reach of the Microenterprise for Self-Reliance Act of 2000 as a proven method of improving the lives of families and communities across the world, and I am proud to support this important measure.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID M. STONE

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the achievements of the Federal Security Director at the Los Angeles International Airport, retired Rear Admiral David M. Stone.

During his tenure with the Transportation Security Administration, Admiral Stone has been instrumental in enhancing the security of the Los Angeles International Airport, the largest origin and destination airport in the world. In addition to working closely with my office, he has worked closely with the aviation and transportation industry, elected officials at every level of government, and, most important, with the talented pool of workers and applicants for employment at LAX.

Through Admiral Stone's efforts, Los Angeles is a safer place. Under his leadership, TSA was able to mobilize, train, and deploy the largest federalized screener force in the United States, two weeks before the national deadline. He also implemented the 100 percent checked baggage screening program at LAX, screening in excess of 150,000 bags per day. He did a superb job of demonstrating TSA's competence, which Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge had the opportunity to see when he visited LAX on April 25, 2003.

I was proud that Admiral Stone served on my Service Academy Selection Committee. As a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, his evaluation of prospective cadets contributed to the selection of the most qualified candidates in the 36th District of California for nomination to our Nation's military academies.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss working with David Stone on enhancing security at LAX. I salute his accomplishments and wish him well.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 22ND ANNUAL TURKISH-AMERICAN DAY PARADE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 22nd annual Turkish-American Day Parade. For over 20 years the parade

has united people in its celebration of the many contributions Turkish Americans have made to the history and diversity of New York City, and our great country.

Since its conception, The Federation of Turkish American Associations, which hosts the parade, has successfully established a vital link between the Turkish and American communities. The Federation has evolved with the changing times and has expanded in size, membership and purpose.

The parade is a culmination of the month long Turkish Culture Festival. Americans of all heritages will be treated to lavish floats, men women and children dressed in regional attire, and a sea of American and Turkish flags. Miss World, Azra Akin, will also participate.

New York is a city inspired by every corner of the globe. We draw on and benefit from a myriad of cultures whose citizens have settled here lending their talents, ambition and drive. Turkish influence is evident throughout the city.

It is hard to walk a block in New York City without seeing a Turkish restaurant, a building whose design was influenced by Turkish architecture or a store awning that includes calligraphy, an art form first practiced in Turkey.

The Turkish-American Day Parade is also a chance to honor Turkish Americans who are leaders in their fields, having made contributions in business, the arts, entertainment, and public service not only for the Turkish community, but for all New Yorkers and Americans. Post parade festivities include various Turkish folk dancing troupes, traditional costumes, music, food and artists displaying diverse Turkish culture. In addition, Turkish American Veterans will participate.

In recognition of outstanding Turkish American contributions, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 22nd annual Turkish American Day Parade.

HONORING CHIEF YEOMAN RICHARD MARK ZWEIFACH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I rise in recognition of Senior Chief Yeoman Richard Mark Zweifach, a well-respected leader in the Navy who recently announced his retirement. In his 20 years of service Richard was a leading voice in the Navy.

He joined the Navy in the summer of 1983 and had basic training in Orlando. Upon leaving basic training Richard began his service in Mississippi until settling in New London, CT for almost 4 years. The Navy transferred him to San Diego in 1987 and remained there until 1993. In 1994, Richard went back East to Kings Bay, GA spending 2½ years on the USS *West Virginia*. After his service in Georgia, Richard returned to San Diego to serve with the Submarine Development Squadron. He has served in this capacity for more than 6 years.

While serving his country, Richard still found time to get married and raise a family. He is a devoted husband to his beautiful wife, Traci, and a dedicated father to his three wonderful children, Richard Jr., Ariel and Ashley.

Although he retires from the Navy, Richard still plans to keep his active community life-

style. He is thinking about joining the local police force, which would allow him to continue to help others.

I congratulate Richard on his 20 years of service to our country and applaud his continued devotion to help others. His dedication to our country and his family is a model for all. Thank you on behalf of the people of the 4th Congressional District and others who benefited from your hard work and dedication.

COMMEMORATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORPHAN DRUG ACT AND THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR RARE DISORDERS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 147, Commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Orphan Drug Act and the National Organization for Rare Disorders. This resolution honors an exemplary organization that has vastly improved the lives of millions of Americans with rare diseases and their families.

The Orphan Drug Act of 1983 filled a void in our health care system—the fact that drug companies were unwilling or unable to invest in developing products to treat rare diseases. The incentives that the Orphan Drug Act put into place have made dramatic improvements in the availability of treatments for the 25 million Americans affected by rare diseases. In the decade before the Orphan Drug Act was signed into law, ten treatments for orphan disease were developed. In the last 20 years, more than 200 treatments for rare diseases have been approved by the FDA, and more than 900 more are in development.

The National Organization of Rare Disorders has represented a lifeline for millions of families since its inception in 2003. It has been instrumental in providing information about diseases and their treatments, and for connecting individuals impacted by rare disorders with advocacy organizations and with each other, allowing patients and families to gain invaluable support and advice from those suffering from the same conditions. It has connected patients with drug assistance programs, to help them to access life improving drugs that they otherwise could not afford.

I want to draw particular attention to the various disorders characterized as types of epilepsy. The Orphan Drug Act has been instrumental in the development of epilepsy treatments such as sodium valproate and a gel form of diazepam, or Valium. But, for epilepsy and thousands of other disorders, there is much more work to be done. New evidence of the damaging long-term effects of seizures represents an additional call to action to develop better treatments for the various epileptic disorders. Twenty-five percent of epilepsy patients have uncontrolled seizures, and even those for whom medicine or surgery are effective still suffer seizures and their damaging effects.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman FOLEY and the entire Energy and Commerce Committee for introducing this important resolution and bringing it to the floor today. And I applaud the perseverance of NORD founder